

# **Delavan Smith residence photographs B080**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

January 22, 2018

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts  
140 North Senate Avenue  
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204  
317-232-3671

**Table of Contents**

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Summary Information ..... 3

Biographical Note..... 4

Scope and Contents..... 4

Arrangement.....5

Administrative Information .....5

Controlled Access Headings.....5

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Title</b>	Delavan Smith residence photographs
<b>Date</b>	circa 1905
<b>Extent</b>	0.01 Cubic feet 1 oversize folder
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Text [Folder]</b>	OB058

### Preferred Citation

Delavan Smith residence photographs, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

## Biographical Note

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"Delavan Smith (1861–1922) was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, to newspaper publisher William Henry and Emaline Reynolds Smith. He was educated at Lake Forest (Illinois) Academy and Lake Forest University. Smith also earned an engineering degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and was briefly employed as an engineer before following his father into the newspaper publishing field. Like his father, Delavan Smith was involved in several newspaper-related industries, including serving as vice-president for both the Oliver Typewriter Company and the Cox Multi-Mailer Corporation, which produced bundling machines for newspaper mailings. In addition to his newspaper ventures, Delavan Smith was an astute businessman with an estate worth over \$2 million at the time of his death. Besides his publishing and related businesses, Smith was also involved with timber and land speculations and small manufacturing enterprises. The personnel involved often carried over from one business to another and usually revolved around a small group of wealthy Chicago residents including Cyrus McCormick, Louis Swift, and John Harlan. Smith's main business undertaking was the ownership and publication of the Indianapolis News, which he ran at one time or another with his father, William Henry Smith; his brother-in-law, Charles Richard Williams; his cousin, Charles W. Fairbanks; and Major William J. Richards. Delavan Smith was involved with the ownership and publication of the News from 1892 until his death in 1922. Among Smith's chief philanthropic causes was his involvement with Lake Forest University, for which he served on the board of trustees beginning in 1906; he often assumed financial responsibility for many of the college's debts. With no direct heirs at the time of his death, Smith bequeathed millions of dollars to several Indianapolis charities including the Indianapolis Foundation, Methodist Hospital, the Art of Association of Indianapolis, and the Flower Mission. His will included the donation of his and his father's papers, his father's library, and a sizeable endowment to the Indiana Historical Society for the establishment of the Society's William Henry Smith Memorial Library."

Source: Delavan Smith papers, 1868-1921," 09/20/2005. Finding at at the Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, Ind. <https://indianahistory.org/wp-content/uploads/delevan-smith-papers-1868-1921.pdf>. Accessed January 8, 2018.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection includes two photographs of interiors of the Delavan Smith home in Lake Forest, Illinois, circa 1905.

## Arrangement

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This collection consists of two items.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

### Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation.

### Accruals

No further additions are expected.

### Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2018/01/09 by Lauren Patton. EAD finding aid created 2018/01/09 by Lauren Patton.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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**Geographic Name(s)**

- Lake Forest (Ill.)

**Personal Name(s)**

- Smith, Delevan, 1861–1922

**Subject(s)**

- Architecture, Domestic
- Dwellings